



TESTIMONY BY:
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STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 14, 2024
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, RM 224 & Videoconference

HB 1934, H.D.2
RELATING TO DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED

Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) **supports H.B. 1934, H.D.2**, which requires the Director of Transportation to convene an intoxicated driving reduction working group, under the leadership of Hawaii's Strategic Highway Safety Plan, to make recommendations for amendments to existing laws to reduce incidents of intoxicated driving

The HDOT is currently updating their Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), which includes an impaired driving emphasis area and an action plan. In 2006, which was prior to the requirement that Hawaii develop an SHSP, there were 161 fatalities on Hawaii's highways, 79 or 49.1 percent of them died in alcohol-related traffic crashes. Since the inception of the SHSP in 2007, Hawaii's traffic fatalities have dropped to an average of 104 each year and 37 alcohol-related fatalities each year. The drop in fatalities is largely due to the collaborative effort of the stakeholders involved in the SHSP process, including legislatures, and implementation of policy recommendations.

We believe using SHSP would be a good process and plan to help accomplish the intent of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
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KE KIA'ĀINA



JORDAN LOWE
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Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai

715 South King Street
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TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1934, HOUSE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED

Before the Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

Thursday, March 14, 2024; 3:00 p.m.

State Capitol Conference Room 224, Via Videoconference

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) **supports** on House Bill 1934, HD 2.

This bill establishes a working group to study, investigate, and recommend transformative changes to laws relating to the operation of a vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant to reduce incidents of intoxicated driving.

The DLE appreciates the inclusion of a representative from law enforcement on the working group in this draft of the bill. While it may not be necessary to invite a member from all counties and the State law enforcement agencies, law enforcement should be represented and the current version of this bill addresses this need.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this bill.



Testimony of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization

Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

**03/14/23 10:00AM
CR 224 & Videoconference**

HB 1934 HD2 Relating to Driving While Intoxicated

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Committee Members,

The Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OahuMPO) **supports HB 1934 HD2** which requires the Director of Transportation to convene an intoxicated driving reduction working group, under the leadership of Hawai'i's strategic highway safety plan, to make recommendations for amendments to existing laws to reduce incidents of intoxicated driving. This bill would help us achieve our goal of reducing traffic deaths and serious injuries to zero, as outlined in our 2050 long-range plan, specifically related to our objective of reducing dangerous driving behaviors.

Data produced by the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) indicates that between 2016-2020, nearly one-third of all traffic deaths in Hawaii involved alcohol; an alarming statistic exceeding the national average. We appreciate the inclusion of language to increase efforts in examining the impact of reducing a person's permissible blood alcohol level while operating a vehicle from .08 per cent to .05 per cent. After Utah enacted laws lowering the BAC to 0.05, the number and rate of fatal crashes decreased. Enacting a similar law here could decrease the number and rate of crashes and create awareness.

The OahuMPO is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) on the island of Oahu responsible for carrying out a multimodal transportation planning process, including the development of a long-range (25-year horizon) metropolitan transportation plan, referred to as the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan (ORTP) that encourages and promotes a safe and efficient transportation system to serve the mobility needs of people and freight (including walkways, bicycles, and transit), fosters economic growth and development, and takes into consideration resiliency needs, while minimizing fuel consumption and air pollution ([23 CFR 450.300](#)).

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



Mothers Against Drunk Driving
Hawaii State Office
madd.org/Hawaii

745 Fort Street
Suite 303
Honolulu, HI 96813

808.532.6232 direct
877.MADD.HELP victim support
877.ASK.MADD

February 13, 2024

To: Representative Chris Lee, Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts,
Senator Lorraine R. Ingouye, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee

From: Alice Liu, Program Director; Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Hawaii

Re: House Bill 1934 – RELATING TO DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED.

I am Alice Liu, offering testimony on behalf of the members of Mothers Against Drunk Driving Hawaii, in support of House Bill 1934 calling for an impaired driving working group.

MADD has participated over the years in many working groups, task forces, and other groupings on the often difficult issues surrounding the prevention of impaired driving and its enforcement. We look forward to participating in this proposed new grouping, especially at a time when change may be imminent in cannabis regulation and other major issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Alice Liu
Program Director, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Hawaii